

HISTORICAL SUPPLEMENT TO THE ANNUAL SANITARY REPORT

CUMULATIVE REPORT FOR PERIOD OF WORLD WAR II

A. CHRONOLOGY.

The ship now known as the U.S.S. BOUNTIFUL has a long history of honorable and efficient service. She was built in the Philadelphia Navy Yard, commissioned as the U.S.S. HENDERSON on June 7, 1917, served as a Marine Transport during World War Number One and as a Navy transport until decommissioned at San Francisco on October 17, 1943. She was re-conditioned and converted into a hospital ship by the General Engineering and Dry Dock Cooperation, re-commissioned as an A.P.O. on March 23, 1944 and as the U.S. NAVAL HOSPITAL SHIP BOUNTIFUL on May 15, 1944.

Few, if any, hospital ships have equaled this ship's experiences in actual combat zones or cared for as many fresh battle casualties.

A survey of the "Log of ships' movements," below, shows that the ship took an active part in caring for casualties during the invasions by our forces of Saipan, Guam, Palau Islands, Philippine Islands, Iwo Jima, Okinawa and occupation of Japan. In addition, valuable services were rendered to the fleets in the Ulithi, Leyte and other areas.

The history of the ship's activities have been well covered by articles which have already been forwarded to the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery. The following reports contain data of historical interest and cover many phases of the ship's life and work.

- (a) Annual Sanitary Report for the year of 1944.
- (b) Supplement to Annual Sanitary Report for the year of 1944.
 - List of contents:
 - (1) "Introduction and Comments" by Capt. L.W. JOHNSON (MC) USN
 - (2) "Historical Section" by Lt.Cdr.S.F. WILLIAMS (MC) USN
 - (3) "Role of Hospital Ships" by Lt. J.R. GEFFERT (MC) USNR
 - (4) "Observations & Comments of Laboratory Officer" by Comdr. Jack C. NORRIS (MC) USNR
 - (5) "An Orthopedist's Experience Aboard a Hospital Ship" by Comdr. Henry P. LANGE (MC) USNR
 - (6) "Surgical Observations and Comments" by Lt.Cdr. R.H. LOE (MC) USNR
 - (7) "Medical Observations and Comments" by Lt.Cdr. R.F. MC LAUGHLIN (MC) USNR.
 - (8) "Anesthesia Aboard A Hospital Ship" by Lt.Cdr. E.J. BELMONICO (MC) USNR.
 - (9) "Urological Department Observation & Comments" by Lt. Comdr. Henry A. KONTOFF (MC) USNR
 - (10) "Eye, Ear, Nose & Throat Dept. Observations & Comments" by Lt. Comdr. E.G. WALLS (MC) USNR

- (11) "X-Ray Department Observations and Comments" by Lt. Comdr. S.F. WILLIAMS (MC) USN
- (12) "Neuropsychiatric Department Report" by Lt. Cdr. E.J. FOGEL (MC) USNR
- (13) "Combat Fatigue and It's Management" by Lt. Comdr. E.J. FOGEL (MC) USNR
- (14) "Medical Service Observations" by Lt. Cdr. Jos. A. FORTE (MC) USN
- (15) "Burns, Clinical Observations and Treatment" by Lt. J.R. GEFPERT (MC) USNR
- (16) "War Casualties - Statistical Data" by Lt. J. Hunter SMITH, II, (MC) USN
- (17) "Dental Department Comments and Observations" by Lt. J.K. TRAIN, Jr. (MC) USNR
- (18) "Dental Department Comments" by Comdr. G.H. MILLS (DC) USN
- (19) "Dental Department Observations and Comments" by Lt. F.N. JOHNSTON (DC) USN
- (20) "Nurses Aboard a Hospital Ship in Time of War" by Lt. Ethel HIMES (MC) USN
- (21) "Comments on Administration" by Lt. (jg) Henry KIBSGAARD (HC) USN
- (22) "Administrative Problems Aboard an AH" by Ens. G.A. RICHARD (HC) USN
- (23) "Property & Accounting Department" by Ens. L.A. BRYANT (HC) USN
- (24) "Highlights in Retrospect" by Merle W. MARX, CPhM USNR
- (25) "They Lived to Tell" by Leonard LIEDERMAN, Halc USN
- (26) "Nips Received - Treatment Rendered" by Merle W. MARX, CPhM USNR
- (27) "Commissioning Day" by Martin A. MATOUSHEK, Ylc USNR
- (28) "A Night in New Guinea" by H.B. GOLDSTEIN, PhMlc USNR
- (29) "Statistical Studies of Battle Casualties, Tabulated."
- (c) "U.S.S. BOUNTIFUL - History of Activities in World War Number Two 1944-1945" by Lt. Comdr. Sylvester F. WILLIAMS (MC) USN
- (d) "Commissioning the U.S.S. BOUNTIFUL" by Lt. (jg) Henry KIBSGAARD (HC) USN
- (e) "U.S.S. BOUNTIFUL - Serving the Fleets at Sea" (a souvenir booklet) compiled by Comdr. Jack C. NORRIS (MC) USNR.
- (f) Letter to Yakima Morning Herald by Capt. L.W. JOHNSON (MC) USN (Written at the request of the Chief of the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery.)
- (g) "Hauchlibul's Hospital Ship Experience" by Capt. L.W. JOHNSON (MC) USN
- (h) Letter, Captain L.W. JOHNSON (MC) USN, to The Chief of the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery re-embarkation of patients from boats, etc., dated 16 May 1945.

In addition a number of articles have been written by members of the staff for publication in current journals.

B. ORGANIZATION OF ACTIVITY AND ITS POSITION IN THE NAVAL CHAIN OF COMMAND.

The internal organization of the Medical Department follows closely the plan as outlined in the Manual of the Medical Department for Naval Hospitals. The Senior Medical Officer, subject to orders of the Commanding Officer, has had full responsibility for the activities of the Medical Department and its personnel except for discipline and non-medical ship's routine. Reference: Ship's Organization Bill quote "The Senior Medical Officer shall maintain and direct the organization of the Medical Department in accordance with existing regulations, orders and directives of the Navy Department, subject to orders of the Commanding Officer he shall exercise complete jurisdiction within the Medical Department. Services to patients shall be subject to such instructions as he may issue," unquote.

During the major portion of the time, the ship has served as a part of the Service Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet and, through that chain of Command, under the respective Commanders of the Third, Fifth and Seventh Fleets.

C & D. NARRATIVE ACCOUNT AND ADDITIONAL DATA.

These items have been extensively covered in articles mentioned in paragraph (A) and already submitted to the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery.

E. SUMMARY OF THE MOST EFFECTIVE AND LEAST EFFECTIVE PORTIONS OF THE LOCAL MEDICAL PROGRAM.

This Medical Department of this ship was well organized before its first combat area experienced at Saipan. The majority of the Medical Officers on the staff were outstanding in their respective specialities. The majority of the Hospital Corpsmen were above the average and became very efficient in first-aid and nursing care of casualties. Many became exceptionally efficient in operating room technique, surgical dressing technique, laboratory work, burn-shock-plasma and transfusion team-work, etc.. They rendered service of inestimable value.

The following officers of the Medical Department are considered deserving of special recognition for meritorious service.

Comdr. Jack C. NORRIS (MC) USNR
Comdr. Sylvester F. WILLIAMS (MC) USN
Comdr. Henry P. LANGE (MC) USNR
Comdr. Ralph H. LOE (MC) USNR
Comdr. Richard F. MC LAUGHLIN (MC) USNR
Lt. Comdr. Ernest J. FOEEL (MC) USNR
Lt. Comdr. Joseph A. FORTE, Jr. (MC) USN
Lt. John R. GEPFERT (MC) USNR
Lt. J. Hunter SMITH, II, (MC) USN
Lt.(jg) Henry KIBSGAARD (HC) USN
Lt. Ethel HIMES (NC) USN

All other Medical, Dental, Hospital Corps and Nurse Corps Officers performed devoted efficient and commendable service.

The history of this ship's activities and accomplishments is one of service to the Fleets and Forces of the invasion areas. It is believed that this record is one of efficiency. It would be difficult to point out the "Most effective and least effective portions of the local Medical Program." Delay in mail, insufficient copies of letters, Bulletins, etc., and difficulty in dissemination of information aboard has at times presented problems. Insufficient copies received aboard has frequently made it necessary for the Medical Department to make copies of letters etc., for its own use and files. Much time and effort would be saved if the Medical Department were placed on the mailing lists for Navy Department Bulletins, circular letters, Fleet and Task Force Letters, etc., which pertain to Medical Department Activities. At times, letters requiring Medical Department action have not been received for two to four months after the order should have become effective. The last Navy Department Bulletin received on board was the issue of 15 October 1945.

Some points and recommendations were mentioned in the Annual Sanitary Report for 1944 which, it was felt, might make some improvement. With the cessation of hostilities and indefinite future plans for the ship, these changes do not now seem justified.

Lewis W. Johnson
Lewis W. JOHNSON
Captain (MC) USN
Senior Medical Officer

LOG OF SHIP'S MOVEMENTS—MARCH 23, 1944 - JANUARY 1, 1946

LOCATION OF PORTS	DEPARTED	ARRIVED	DAYS	DAYS	MILES	
			IN PORT	AT SEA	TRAVELED	
	1944	1944				
: San Francisco to Hawaii	: April 1	: April 10	: 8	: 9	: 2101	:
: Hawaii to San Francisco	: April 12	: April 19	: 2	: 8	: 2130	:
: San Francisco to Hawaii	: May 1	: May 10	: 10	: 9	: 2143	:
: Pearl Harbor to Eniwetok	: May 26	: June 6	: 16	: 11	: 2275	:
: Eniwetok to Saipan	: June 14	: June 18	: 8	: 5	: 984	:
: Saipan to Kwajalein	: June 19	: June 24	: 1	: 5	: 1285	:
: Kwajalein to Saipan	: June 25	: July 1	: 1	: 6	: 1285	:
: Saipan to Kwajalein	: July 2	: July 8	: 1	: 6	: 1285	:
: Kwajalein to Tulagi	: July 8	: July 15	: 0	: 7	: 1299	:
: Tulagi to Guadalcanal	: July 16	: July 16	: 1	: 1	: 19	:
: Guadalcanal to Eniwetok	: July 16	: July 24	: 0	: 8	: 1300	:
: Eniwetok to Guam	: July 24	: July 28	: 1	: 4	: 1000	:
: Guam Underway Rec. Cas.	: July 28	: August 7		: 10		:
: Guam to Russell Islands	: August 7	: August 16		: 9	: 1754	:
: Russell Islands to Tulagi	: August 17	: August 17	: 1	: 1	: 45	:
: Tulagi to Manus	: August 20	: August 24	: 3	: 5	: 1300	:
: Manus to Palau Islands	: Sept. 17	: Sept. 21	: 24	: 3	: 930	:
: Palau Is. to Guadalcanal	: Sept. 21	: Sept. 29		: 8	: 1680	:
: Tulagi to Palau Islands	: Sept. 30	: Oct. 7	: 1	: 8	: 1680	:
: Palau Islands—Underway	: Oct. 7	: Oct. 12		: 5	: 540	:
: Palau Islands to Manus	: Oct. 12	: Oct. 16		: 4	: 940	:
: Manus to Kossol Passage	: Oct. 17	: Oct. 21	: 1	: 4	: 1000	:
: Kossol Passage to Manus	: Nov. 13	: Nov. 17	: 20	: 4	: 920	:
: Manus to Kossol Passage	: Nov. 19	: Nov. 23	: 2	: 4	: 920	:
: Kossol Passage to Leyte	: Nov. 27	: Nov. 30	: 4	: 3	: 740	:
: Leyte to Hollandia	: Nov. 30	: Dec. 5	: 1	: 6	: 1420	:
: Hollandia to Leyte	: Dec. 6	: Dec. 12	: 1	: 5	: 1420	:
: Leyte to Manus	: Dec. 14	: Dec. 20	: 3	: 6	: 1600	:
: :	: 19 4 4	: 19 4 5				:
: Manus to Leyte	: Dec. 27	: Jan. 2	: 7	: 6	: 1600	:
: :	: 19 4 5	: 19 4 5				:
: Leyte to Hollandia	: Jan. 2	: Jan. 12	: 4	: 6	: 1420	:
: Hollandia to Leyte	: Jan. 14	: Jan. 19	: 2	: 6	: 1420	:
: Leyte to Hollandia	: Feb. 1	: Feb. 8	: 12	: 7	: 1420	:
: Hollandia to Manus	: Feb. 12	: Feb. 14	: 4	: 2	: 390	:
: Manus to Ulithi	: Feb. 24	: Feb. 27	: 10	: 3	: 670	:
: Ulithi to Saipan	: March 6	: March 8	: 11	: 2	: 480	:
: Saipan to Iwo Jima	: March 9	: March 12	: 1	: 3	: 650	:
: Iwo Jima Underway	: March 12	: March 14		: 3	: 300	:
: Iwo Jima to Guam	: March 14	: March 17		: 3	: 740	:
: Guam to Ulithi	: March 18	: March 21	: 1	: 3	: 400	:
: Ulithi to Guam	: April 22	: April 24	: 31	: 3	: 400	:

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LOG OF SHIP'S MOVEMENTS (CONTINUED)

LOCATION OF PORTS	DEPARTED	ARRIVED	DAYS	DAYS	MILES
			IN PORT	AT SEA	TRAVELED
Guam to "Off Okinawa"	April 24	April 29		5	1160
"Off Okinawa" Underway	April 29	May 15		16	900
"Off Okinawa" to Guam	May 15	May 19		4	1110
Guam to "Off Okinawa"	May 22	May 27	3	5	1150
"Off Okinawa" Underway	May 27	June 11		15	1450
"Off Okinawa" to Leyte	June 11	June 15		4	960
Leyte to Sea - To Leyte	July 15	July 20	30	5	1200
Leyte to Hollandia	July 22	July 27	2	6	1460
Hollandia to Manus	July 27	July 29		2	395
Manus to Hawaii	July 29	August 12		15	3660
Hawaii to San Francisco	August 13	August 21	1	8	2090
San Francisco to Mare Is.	August 22	August 22	1	0	20
Mare Island to San Fran.	Oct. 9	Oct. 9	49	0	20
San Francisco to Hawaii	Oct. 10	Oct. 18	1	8	2130
Hawaii to San Francisco	Oct. 19	Oct. 28	1	9	2130
San Francisco to Pearl Har.	Nov. 1	Nov. 9	4	8	2143
Pearl Harbor to Yokosuka	Nov. 10	Nov. 24	1	13	
Yokosuka Japan	- - - -	- - - -	- -	- -	- - -

S U M M A R Y

The Bountiful has evacuated casualties from the following Battle Areas during the time of invasion:

<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>MONTHS</u>	<u>NO. TRIPS</u>	<u>NO. PATIENTS</u>
Saipan	June and July 1944	2	1058
Guam	July and August 1944	1	580
Palau	September and October 1944	2	1009
Kossol Passage (First Philippine Sea Battle)	October and November 1944	1	359
Leyte, P.I.	November to February 1945	4	2149
Iwo Jima	March 1945	1	564
Ulithi (Iwo Jima & Pre-Okinawa Sea Casualties)	April 1945	2	772
Off Okinawa (Fleet Casualties)	May and June 1945	2	203

TRIPS WITH CONVALESCENT PATIENTS

Pearl Harbor to San Francisco - April 1944	1	234
Leyte to Hollandia to Manus to U.S.A.	1	530
TOTAL NUMBER CASUALTIES.....		7458

**This does not include admissions to the sick list of Ship's Company.

TRIPS AS TRANSPORT AP-O

San Francisco to Hawaii -- April and May 1944	2	1000
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TIME SPENT IN SERVICING THE FLEET

<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>MONTHS</u>	<u>NO. DAYS</u>
Eniwetok	June 1944	8
Manus, Admiralties	August 1944	20
Manus, Admiralties	November 1944	20
Leyte, P.I.	January 1945	12
Manus, Admiralties	February 1945	10
Ulithi, Carolines	Feb. and March 1945	11
Ulithi, Carolines	March and April 1945	30
Leyte, P.I.	June and July 1945	30
TOTAL.....		<u>145</u>

Japanese Prisoners of War carried aboard..... 104

Total Number of deaths aboard - (1.39%)..... 103

Out-patient Consultations - March 1944 to August 1945.....5635

OPERATIONS PERFORMED ABOARD THE BOUNTIFUL: (Mar. 23, 1944--Aug. 10, 1945)

Total number of operations.....	2881
Orthopedic operations.....	1665
(Exclusive of head, neck, chest, abdomen)	
(This includes soft tissue wounds as well as osseous structures)	
E.E.N.T. Operations.....	382
General Surgical.....	838

CLASSIFICATION OF TYPES OF INJURIES:

Head Injuries.....	517
(Craniotomies performed - 25)	
Chest Injuries.....	469
(Of these 162 had hemothorax)	
Abdominal Injuries.....	352
Burns.....	243
Fractures.....	823
Spinal Injuries.....	41
Major Amputations.....	45

Classification as to type of injury is not entirely satisfactory since many patients have multiple injuries. In these cases only the major wound has been the determining factor in classification.

NOTE: The complete breakdown of injuries and types of wounds may be found in the Supplement of the Ship's Annual Sanitary Report.
